in Solan district, six in Kangra, three in Kullu, two each in Sirmour, Mandi Bilaspur, Una, and Simla, one each in Barotiwala, Baddi, Ghajiabad, Palampur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Paonta Sahib and Nalagarh, and three in other areas during the period 1997-98 to 2007-08.

**Disputes over national curriculum**

† 2795. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether controversies over national curriculum have risen during the last three years;

(b) the number of schools and universities where the above incidents have taken place;

(c) in how many courts such litigations are going on;

(d) the action taken against the concerned officers, after courts decision to amend the curriculum so that recurrence of such incidents could be prevented; and

(e) if no action has been taken, the reasons herefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) This Ministry has no information on any controversy over National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005 in any school or university.

(c) to (e) A Writ Petition No. 735/2006 was filed by "Independent School Federation of India" in the High Court of Delhi praying for restraining NCERT from laying, framing, modifying, reviewing or implementing NCF. The petition has been disposed of through the Order dated 3.10.2007. The High Court has not issued any direction to amend the curriculum.

**Availability of secondary education**

† 2796. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether secondary education facility in the Secondary Schools is available to only 51.65 per cent boys in the country, at present;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision to expand this facility during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the number of additional schools to be established in every State of the country, alongwith estimated requirement; and

(e) the number of boys who would remain deprived of secondary education, in the absence of arrangement of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per "Selected Educational Statistics -2004-05" (with reference dated 30.9.2004), Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)for classes IX and X (14to 16 years) for boys was 57.39%.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) It has been decided to implement a centrally sponsored scheme for universalisation of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage during Eleventh Five Year Plan subject to requisite approval. The scheme, *inter-alia,* provides for upgradation of existing upper primary schools and strengthening of existing secondary schools so as to provide access to secondary schools within a reasonable distance of every habitation. The number of additional schools required in each Sate depends on the gaps in the availability of schools at present.

(e) A Committee of Central Advisory Board of Education on "Universalisation of Secondary Education" in their report (June, 2005) has estimated enrolment of 4.66 crore for secondary stage (Grades IX-X) by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011 -12) based on 100% success of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and 3.42 crore based on 75% success of SSA. As against this, as per "Selected Educational Statistics—2004-05" (with reference dated 30.9.2004), the actual enrolment for the corresponding grade (classes IX-X) was 2.43 crore in 2004-05.

**Computer software market**

† 2797. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the worth of country's computer software building/export market;

(b) the number of trained computer software engineers and other trained individuals required annually in this industry in the country;

(c) whether country's educational institutes produce trained engineers, as per the demand; and

(d) if not, whether Government would make necessary efforts to meet the demand of trained engineers, in keeping with the requirement of software sector and the increasing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDES WARI): (a) As per National Association of

ware & Service Companies (NASSCOM), during 2006-07, the share of Information Technology (IT) Industry in country's GDP was 5.2% *i.e.* USD 48.1 Billion approximately, which comprised hardware and software Products-USD 11.5 Billion and IT services - USD 36.6 Billion.

(b) As per NASSCOM, around 16.30 lakh people were employed in IT sector during 2006-07 and 3.75 lakh more jobs were expected to be added in the IT Sector in 2007-08.

(c) and (d) As per projections of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), at the present rate of increase in enrolment in engineering colleges, there is not going to be any shortfall in the number of engineers in the country, However, NASSCOM has raised the issue of employability of engineering graduates in India. A working Group was constituted by the Ministry to examine the issues raised by NASSCOM. The Working Group has *inter-alia* recommended Finishing Schools for engineering graduates to enhance their employability, changes in the syllabi of various engineering colleges so as to make them compatible with the needs of the industry, etc. For the present Finishing schools are being organized for IT Sector.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.